

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 and 23-38 have been canceled.

New claims 41 and 42 are presented for prosecution.

Claims 9-22 and 39-42 remain pending in the application. Of these, claims 9-12, 16-18, 20, 39 and 40 are currently amended.

1. Claims 1-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as indefinite. The claims have been amended to overcome this rejection. In particular, “essentially perpendicular to” has been substituted for “radially from” at each occurrence.

2. Claims 1 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Brearey U.S. 1,018,550 (Brearey ‘550). Claims 1 and 4 have been canceled. Accordingly, Applicant requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

3. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Brearey ‘550 in view of Patton U.S. 6,655,627 (Patton ‘627). Claim 8 has been canceled. Accordingly, Applicant requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

4. Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Cloud U.S. 2,620,144 (Cloud ‘144) in view of Brearey ‘550. Claims 1-4 have been canceled. Accordingly, Applicant requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

5. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Cloud ‘144 in view of Brearey ‘550 and further in view of Patton ‘627. Claim 8 has been canceled. Accordingly, Applicant requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

6. Claims 5, 16-19, 23-26, 30 and 32-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Cloud ‘144 in view of Brearey ‘550 and further in view of Branback U.S. Re. 34,376 (Branback ‘376). Claims 5, 23-26, 30 and 32-38 have been canceled. Claims 16 and 39 have been amended in view of this rejection. Cloud ‘144 discloses a yarn holder in which the support arms A and mast 18 are in a non-parallel arrangement and the retaining arms F and the support arms are in a non-parallel arrangement in the collapsed condition (see Fig. 2). Brearey ‘550 discloses a fish line drier in which the retaining arms 27 and support arms 22 are in a non-parallel arrangement in the collapsed condition (see Fig. 2). Branback ‘376 does not teach or suggest the use of hinged support arms and does not contemplate the use of retaining arms. None of the cited references teach or suggest, alone

or in combination, an apparatus in which (i.) a support arm has a collapsed condition in which it extends, at least in part, beside and essentially parallel to a post, and (ii.) a retaining arm has a collapsed condition in which it extends, at least in part, beside and essentially parallel to the support arm, as defined in claim 16. Claims 17-19 depend from the amended claim 16 and are therefore also believed to be allowable over the cited references. None of the cited references teach or suggest, alone or in combination, an apparatus in which a third member that continuously contacts and supports the inner circumference of a conduit during uncoiling has a collapsed condition in which the third member extends, at least in part, beside and essentially parallel to a first member, as defined in claim 39. Claim 40 depends from the amended claim 39 is therefore also believed to be allowable over the cited references. Accordingly, Applicant requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

7. Claims 22, 29 and 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Cloud '144 in view of Brearey '550 and Branback '376 and further in view of Patton '627. Claim 22 depends from the amended claim 16 and is therefore also believed to be allowable over the cited references. Claims 29 and 31 have been canceled. Accordingly, Applicant requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

8. Claims 16, 23 and 39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Cloud '144 in view of Branback '376. For the reasons stated above, the cited references do not teach or suggest the subject matter of claims 16 and 39. Claim 23 has been canceled. Accordingly, Applicant requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

9. The Examiner indicates that claims 6, 7, 9-15, 20, 21, 27 and 28 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form and amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Claims 6 and 7 have been canceled. Claims 9-12 have been amended in view of the rejection under §112, second paragraph. Claims 13-15 depend from the amended claim 9 and are therefore also believed to be allowable. Claims 20 and 21 depend from claim 16, which is now believed to be in condition for allowance, and are therefore also believed to be allowable. Claims 27 and 28 have been canceled.

10. New claim 41 is directed to an apparatus which includes a direction control device to permit movement of the second member in one direction while preventing movement of the second member in the opposite direction. The cited references do not teach or suggest a direction control

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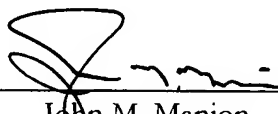
Amendment A

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device and therefore claim 41 is believed to be allowable. New claim 42 depends from claim 41 and is therefore also believed to be allowable over the cited references.

Reconsideration in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks and allowance of claims 9-22 and 39-42 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

By 
John M. Manion
Registration No. 38,957

RYAN KROMHOLZ & MANION, S.C.

Post Office Box 26618

Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53226

(262) 783 - 1300

4 October 2005

Customer No.: 26308

BAYER/9535.18382/051004 AMENDMENT A

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